

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01305 271808Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PRS-01 INR-07 NSC-05 CIAE-00
/043 W

-----280623Z 071008 /17 S

R 271645Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3570
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USIA WASHDC
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1305

USIA FOR IOP IBS IPS IEU

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CSCE SHUM UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS WARNS SAKHAROV

REF: MOSCOW 0615

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED THE WARNING TO ANDREY SAKHAROV
CARRIED BY ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TASS ON JAN. 25 WAS PUBLISHED
IN AN ABRIDGED VERSION IN THE JAN. 26 ISSUE OF IZVESTIYA
AND VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA AND THE JAN. 27 ISSUE OF KRASNAYA
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ZVEZDA, KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, AND MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA. THE
ITEMS WAS NOT CARRIED IN PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, LENINSKOYE
ZNAMYA, OR THE SPECIALIZED PRESS.

2. THE ORIGINAL TASS ITEM REPORTED THAT SAKHAROV HAD BEEN
SUMMONED BY DEPUTY GENERAL PROKURATOR SERGEY GUSEV WHO:
--EXPLAINED TO SAKHAROV THAT HIS "PROVOCATIVE" STATEMENT

(MOSCOW 0615 NOTAL) DELIBERATELY SLANDERED THE SOVIET STATE AND SOCIAL SYSTEM AND WAS THEREFORE PUNISHABLE UNDER THE CRIMINAL CODE; AND

--WARNED SAKHAROV THAT "IF HE DISREGARDED THE WARNING HE WOULD BE BROUGHT TO BOOK IN ACCORDANCE WITH USSR LEGISLATION."

3. AS PUBLISHED IN THE SOVIET PRESS UNDER THE HEADING "SLANDERER WARNED", THE ITEM APPEARS IN AN EDITED VERSION: WHEREAS THE ORIGINAL TASS REPORT SPECIFICALLY NOTED THAT GUSEV WARNED SAKHAROV ABOUT "THE PROVOCATIVE STATEMENT HE MADE CONCERNING 'INVOLVEMENT' OF GOVERNMENT BODIES IN A SUBWAY EXPLOSION IN MOSCOW," THE PUBLISHED VERSION OMITTS ANY REFERENCE TO THE EXPLOSION. IT ALSO DROPS THE ORIGINAL ITEM'S PEJORATIVE REFERENCE TO SAKHAROV AS "CITIZEN" AND OMITTS THE STATEMENT THAT HIS SLANDER "IS THEREFORE PUNISHABLE ACCORDING TO THE CRIMINAL CODE." (THE ONLY PRESS ITEM ABOUT THE METRO BOMBING ITSELF WAS A BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT IN MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA JANUARY 11 THAT "AN EXPLOSION OF SMALL FORCE" OCCURRED ON THE METRO AND CAUSED INJURIES AND THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS UNDERWAY. WE UNDERSTAND A SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENT WAS CARRIED ON SOVIET RADIO.)
END UNCLAS
BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL.

4. COMMENT: IN OMITTING ANY REFERENCE TO THE SUBWAY EXPLOSION FROM THE ITEM AS PUBLISHED, THE AUTHORITIES IN EFFECT CONTINUE THEIR POST JAN. 11 POLICY OF NOT EMPHASIZING THE STORY TO THE DOMESTIC AUDIENCE. THE PUBLISHED ITEM'S OMISSION OF THE FLAT DECLARATION THAT SAKHAROV'S BEHAVIOR IS PUNISHABLE ACCORDING TO THE CRIMINAL CODE AVOIDS THE QUESTION AS TO WHY, THEN, HE IS NOT BEING CHARGED IN COURT. THE FACT THAT THE WARNING TO SAKHAROV WAS REPORTED IN
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THE SOVIET PRESS SUGGESTS, HOWEVER, THAT ANY FURTHER "ANTI-REGIME" PRONOUNCEMENTS FROM HIM MIGHT PROVOKE A MORE SEVERE OFFICIAL REACTION.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, PRESS COMMENTS, THREATS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW01305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770030-1078
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770113/aaaaakwm.tel
Line Count: 101
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS WARNS SAKHAROV
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, UR, CSCE, (SAKHAROV, ANDREY)
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